

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the subject application as amended herein. This Amendment is submitted in response to an Office Action mailed on May 2, 2002. Claims 1, 4-10, 23-27, 43-52 and 55-62 are rejected. Claims 1 and 23 have been amended. Claim 10 has been canceled. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-10, 23-27, 43-52 and 55-62 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art in view of Yamada, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,453,864, hereinafter Yamada). As discussed below, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are patentable over the above reference.

Claim 1

With regard to claim 1, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because the combination does not teach, suggest, or even motivate each and every element of the invention as claimed in claim 1. The admitted prior art discloses a rigid display on rigid substrate. The admitted prior art made no mention of the flexible substrate with a plurality of different shaped blocks deposited onto the substrate or the polarizing film that are part of the display backplane as claimed in Applicant's present invention. Applicant's claim 1 recites.

Claim 1: (as amended)

A flexible display device comprising:
a flexible substrate; and
an active matrix display backplane coupled to said substrate wherein said active matrix display backplane comprises a plurality of different shaped blocks that are deposited onto one of said flexible substrate and a polarizing film

The admitted prior art made no mention of the plurality of different shaped blocks.

The Yamada reference pertains to a liquid crystal display element having flexible substrates. The Yamada reference made no mention of the plurality of different shaped blocks. Indeed, the Yamada reference made no mention of any blocks deposited on the substrate.

As neither the Yamada reference, nor the admitted prior art, teaches depositing a plurality of different shaped blocks into a flexible substrate or the polarizing film to create a flexible display, the combination cannot be interpreted to disclose the claimed element. It would not be obvious to modify either reference to provide the missing element because neither reference discussed the plurality of different shaped blocks being deposited in the substrate of a flexible display.

Applicant further respectfully traverses that using different shaped blocks in the content of the claim is common and known in the art to optimize device performance as stated by the Examiner.

Therefore, claim 1 is not made obvious under the admitted prior art and in light of the Yamada reference.

Claim 23

With regard to claim 23, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claim 23. Applicant respectfully submits that the admitted prior art made no mention of a display device that comprises a flexible substrate and a passive matrix display backplane coupling to the flexible substrate with the a plurality of blocks deposited in the flexible substrate. In particular, claim 23 recites (as amended):

23. A flexible display device comprising:
a flexible substrate;
a passive matrix display backplane coupled to said flexible substrate; and
said passive matrix display backplane comprises a plurality of blocks that are deposited onto said flexible substrate.

As discussed above, Applicant mentioned in the application that the admitted prior art only deals with rigid substrate.

The Yamada reference only pertains to a flexible liquid crystal display cell and made no mention coupling this flexible liquid crystal display cell to a flexible substrate that has a plurality of blocks deposited therein.

As neither the Yamada reference, nor the admitted prior art, teaches the flexible substrate coupling to the passive display backplane and a plurality of blocks deposited in the flexible substrate, the combination cannot be interpreted to disclose the claimed element of claim 23. It would not be obvious to modify either reference to provide the missing element because neither reference discussed the combination of a flexible substrate coupling to the passive display backplane and a plurality of blocks deposited in the flexible substrate as in Applicant's invention.

Therefore, claim 1 is not made obvious under the admitted prior art and in light of the Yamada reference.

Claims 55 and 56

With regard to claims 55 and 56, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 55 and 56. Applicant respectfully submits that the admitted prior art made no mention of a display device that comprises a flexible substrate and a flexible reflective display that is coupled to the flexible substrate. In contrary, Applicant mentioned that the

admitted prior art only deals with rigid substrate.

The Yamada reference only pertains to a flexible liquid crystal display cell and made no mention coupling this flexible liquid crystal display cell to a flexible reflective substrate. Additionally, the Yamada reference made no mention of any shaped blocks being deposited in the flexible reflective substrate.

As neither the Yamada reference, nor the admitted prior art, teaches the flexible substrate coupling to the flexible reflective display backplane, the combination cannot be interpreted to disclose the claimed element of claims 55 and 56. It would not be obvious to modify either reference to provide the missing element because neither reference discussed the combination of a flexible reflective display backplane and the flexible substrate as in Applicant's invention.

Therefore, claim 1 is not made obvious under the admitted prior art and in light of the Yamada reference.

Claims 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9

Claims 4-9 depend from claim 1 and are likewise not made obvious under the admitted prior art and in light of the Yamada reference.

Claims 24, 25, 26, and 27

Claims 24-27 depend from claim 23 and are likewise not made obvious under the admitted prior art and in light of the Yamada reference.

Claim 57, 58, 59, 60, and 61

Claims 57-61 depend from claim 55 and are likewise not made obvious under the



admitted prior art and in light of the Yamada reference.

Claim 62

Claim 62 depends from claim 55 and is likewise not made obvious under the admitted prior art and in light of the Yamada reference. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner that the admitted prior art as shown in Figures 1(a) to 1(d) clearly shows that the substrate has at least one recessed region wherein reflective blocks are deposited thus making the recessed regions reflective. These figures show only that the substrate includes at least one recessed region and at least one block being deposited therein. The admitted prior art does not suggest or teach that the recessed region is reflective.

Claim 43

With regard to claim 43, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claim 43. The admitted prior art discloses rigid display and rigid substrate. The admitted prior art made no mention of a plurality of *display device components* being coupled to a flexible substrate as claimed in Applicant's present invention. Applicant's claim 43 recites.

Claim 43:

A plurality of display device components comprising:
a flexible substrate having at least a first length;
said flexible substrate having a second length; and
a plurality of display device components coupled to said flexible substrate, each of said display device components is separated by at least a third length.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner misunderstood the admitted prior art to discuss a plurality of display device components. The figures 1(a) to 1(d) discussed

pertaining to the admitted prior art did not suggest, teach, or even hints at multiple display device components on the substrate. The figures show several blocks incorporated into a rigid substrate. There is no suggestion that this rigid substrate will form a plurality of display device components.

Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to an exemplary figures that illustrate claim 43's concept of plurality of display device components, Figures 10 and 11. Claim 43 directs to a flexible substrate that is continuous and upon which, a plurality of display device components (e.g., active matrix display devices) can be formed. On the contrary, the admitted prior art only deals with a rigid substrate with a plurality of blocks to form a display.

Similarly, the Yamada reference did not pertain to a flexible substrate that is continuous and upon which, a plurality of display device components (e.g., separate active matrix display devices) can be formed. The Yamada reference only deals with a liquid crystal display cell that has flexible substrates.

As neither the Yamada reference, nor the admitted prior art, teaches a flexible substrate having at least a first length; said flexible substrate having a second length; and a plurality of display device components coupled to said flexible substrate, each of said display device components is separated by at least a third length, the combination cannot be interpreted to disclose the claimed element. It would not be obvious to modify either reference to provide the missing element to provide claim 43 because neither reference discussed the continuous flexible substrate with a plurality of different display device components.

Therefore, claim 1 is not made obvious under the admitted prior art and in light of the Yamada reference.

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Claims 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 and 52

Claims 44-52 depend from claim 43 and are likewise not made obvious under the admitted prior art and in light of the Yamada reference.

SUMMARY

Applicant believes the above remarks are fully responsive to the Office Action dated May 2, 2002. If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Mimi Dao at (408) 720-8300.

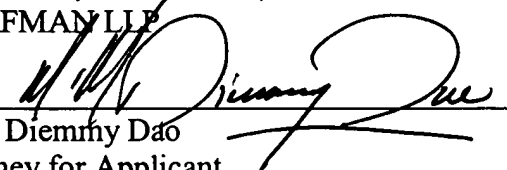
Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A: VERSION OF SPECIFICATION WITH MARKINGS

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, please delete the title of the invention, and replace it with:

APPARATUSES AND METHODS FOR FLEXIBLE DISPLAYS [FORMING ASSEMBLIES]

APPENDIX B: VERSION OF CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS

1. (Once amended) A flexible display device comprising:
a flexible substrate; and
an active matrix display backplane coupled to said substrate wherein said active matrix display backplane comprises a plurality of different shaped blocks that are deposited onto [to] one of said flexible substrate and a polarizing film.

23. (Once Amended) A flexible display device comprising:
a flexible substrate;
a passive matrix display backplane coupled to said flexible substrate; and
said passive matrix display backplane comprises a plurality of blocks that are deposited onto said flexible substrate.